

WAKEFIELD & DISTRICT

safeguarding adults board

Wakefield and District
Safeguarding Adults Board

Annual Report 2010 to 2011

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1. Foreword from the Safeguarding Adults Board Chair

**Elaine McHale, Corporate Director – Family Services,
Wakefield Council**

It is the aim of the Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adults Board (WDSAB) to ensure that safeguarding adults who may need care and support is 'Everybody's Business'. To do this we have to ensure that good preventative safeguarding arrangements are in place and that we are able to identify and protect those who are at risk of abuse. This report highlights progress achieved in the past year to September 2011 and sets out our ambitions for the coming 18 months.

This has been a challenging period for the Board. At a local level public agencies have had to make very significant savings and changes at a time when demand for services, as reflected in adult protection referrals, has increased. It is vital then that we work together to make sure our reporting arrangements work well and that we maximise future opportunities around joint commissioning for training and services.

During the revue period The Board approved a Serious Case Review Policy in June 2010. There has not been a Serious Case Review during this period, but the Board is ready to deal with one should it arise. We held our Annual Conference on the 10th March 2011 which provided expert overviews on some key issues facing professionals in Adult Safeguarding and it was an excellent learning opportunity for the staff who attended. The Board received a police report on the important issue of forced marriage and arrangements are being made in conjunction with the Children's Board under the Think Family agenda to hold joint training sessions.

Agreement has been reached with the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) that where required Domestic Homicide Reviews should take place under the direction of the Adult Safeguarding Board. The aim is to have closer working relationships with the CSP and this is one of the mechanisms for achieving that aim. The Board received an encouraging piece of research into the experiences and reflections of a group of service users of how the process of adult protection had affected them. It will be an integral part of the Boards work over the next 18 months to listen and take account of the views of Service Users by engaging with user groups at every opportunity.

Some of the partners represented on the Board have wider responsibilities than Wakefield, such as West Yorkshire Police, the Mid Yorkshire and South West Yorkshire NHS Trusts. Recognising this, the Board has agreed to participate in the formulation of joint West Yorkshire procedures in relation to Adult Safeguarding. Work is already underway on this project and there will be regular updates to the Board as this work progresses.

This year the Board commissioned a review of its processes by an Independent Consultant. This review was undertaken in July and August 2011 and made a number of recommendations, all of which have been acted upon.

One of the recommendations was to create a Business plan to encapsulate the work of the Board to maintain and further encourage close partnership working. This Business plan has been formulated and will be a key item for discussion at the Boards development day in October.

Nationally there have been a number of developments which will directly affect Adult Safeguarding. Perhaps the most important of these was the Law Commissions report to the Government on adult social care. The Law Commission made a number of recommendations including placing Adult Safeguarding Boards on a statutory footing. It is likely this will happen next year and the implications of this for the Board will also be discussed at the Board development day in October.

Finally I would like to welcome two new agencies who have joined the Board over the last 12 months, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and Wakefield District Housing who will both bring a new dimension to the work of the Board.

2. National Context

There have been a number of national developments during the past twelve months which have already impacted upon or will influence the safeguarding agenda in Wakefield for the near future.

Review of 'No Secrets'

- Arrangements for safeguarding adults fall under the Department of Health policy framework of 'No Secrets 2000' guidance. In October 2008, the Department of Health launched a public consultation on its review of 'No Secrets'. The report on the Consultation was published in July 2009.

The last Government did publish a response to this review, but the new government put this on hold and has said the current arrangements as set out in no Secrets 2000 will remain in force until 2013.

Law Commission Recommendation

The Law Commission report published in May 2011 makes recommendations for a single, clear, modern statute and code of practice that would pave the way for a coherent social care system. Under the reforms proposed in the report, older people, disabled people, those with mental health problems and carers will, for the first time, be clear about their legal rights to care and support services. Local councils across England and Wales will have clear and concise rules to govern when they must provide services. They also recommended placing adult Safeguarding Boards on a statutory footing.

It is expected the Government will publish a White paper late 2011 or in 2012 outlining its vision and the establishment of a sustainable legal and financial framework for Adult Social Care.

Mental Capacity Act

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 contributes to safeguarding by providing a framework for decision making in relation to mental capacity. New Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoL's) under the Mental Capacity Act were implemented in April 2009, which apply to care homes and hospitals. Councils and PCTs have a specific role to play and the Care Quality Commission has a monitoring role in relation to the operation of these safeguards.

The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards have required the training and establishment of a network of Best Interest Assessors. The number of assessments is increasing as the skills and knowledge of staff grows and the requirement for a DoL's assessment becomes clearly understood.

Personalisation

Personalisation is a key aspect of the Government's vision for public services in order to enable people to feel empowered and supported in meeting their aspirations. There is a particular emphasis on how Councils are building safeguarding into policy and practice in support of personalisation. These include supporting recruiting and vetting, access to advocacy, community safety services, risk assessment and reviewing arrangements.

3. Local Context

Leadership and Collaboration

The Safeguarding Board has an excellent and committed membership with a membership agreement and constitution. The Board is committed to having highlight reports from all partners presented to the Board and specific issues worked on jointly – such as improving connectivity with domestic violence issues and hate crime.

The Board commissioned an independent review in July and August 2011 which has assisted the Board in refining a Business Plan and Performance Framework to monitor performance across the partnership.

Making the Links with Children's Safeguarding

There are opportunities to broaden learning by sharing experiences with the Children's Safeguarding Board. The chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board and the chair of the Quality and Performance Sub Group are members of the Wakefield Children's Safeguarding Board. Other Board members have responsibility for children's as well as adult safeguarding in their own agencies. At the Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust a corporate safeguarding

function has been formed by the merger of safeguarding adults named professionals and safeguarding children named professionals. This function is led by the Mid Yorkshire Trust member of the Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adult Board.

Putting People First in Wakefield – Transforming Adult Social Care

Last year signalled a large-scale transformation agenda for adult social care services across the county following the landmark 'Putting People First' concordat in 2007 and the 'Transforming Adult Social Care' circular in early 2008.

The Government expects that by 2011 all local authorities will have made significant steps towards redesigning their adult social care services to ensure there is choice, control and independence for people with social care needs.

The Wakefield ambition is to:

“Enable people to maximise their independence, exercise control over their lives and have choices on how best their care needs are met”.

A key element in 'Putting People First' is for each person who is eligible for social care support to have the choice of a personal budget. This gives people the ability to buy a flexible range of services, to meet their individual needs and to have more control over how they are delivered. This could include:

- Employing staff directly, and managing a personal budget.
- Buying from a flexible range of services including agencies with whom the council does not contract; and buying non-traditional services.

Links with Commissioning Strategies

There is ongoing work to make sure that safeguarding is central to our joint health and social care commissioning strategies.

Within Wakefield NHS a Safeguarding Children and Adults Commission Policy has been developed in order to ensure safeguarding is embedded into all contracts.

The Learning Disability Partnership Board has updated its future vision for services. The key themes from this vision include raising awareness, addressing concerns that will enable learning disabled people to feel free from persecution at home and when accessing the wider community.

The profile of safeguarding has been significantly increased with the new care programme approach policy for mental health. This means that safeguarding issues will be addressed as part of an individual assessment for support. A new referral pathway has been put into place to ensure that staff in integrated mental health services are clear about the steps they need to take.

A safeguarding forum has been established within the integrated mental health service. This group will oversee practice, referral activity, and audit.

All voluntary sector providers and community groups are required to have safeguarding policies in place.

Partnership Approach to the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect

Over the last twelve months West Yorkshire Police has established a Strategic Safeguarding Board chaired by the Assistant Chief Constable (Serious and Organised Crime). Members of the Board include district safeguarding leads (members of the Police senior management teams) who have specific responsibility for safeguarding both adults and children within their local authority district and represent the force on both the local safeguarding children and adult boards.

The force has reviewed its safeguarding arrangements and developed an adult safeguarding strategy to further improve safeguarding practice and to ensure that safeguarding is seen as 'everyone's business'.

West Yorkshire Police piloted a safeguarding unit which saw child protection investigations sitting alongside adult protection investigations and made the links between all vulnerable people which further strengthened local partnership working. The pilot was deemed a success and will be replicated by the Police across West Yorkshire. It is expected the new Wakefield Divisional Police Safeguarding Unit will be established by March 2012.

Hate Crime

Wakefield Council's Equality and Diversity strategy seeks to redress the many inequalities some communities face, particularly those people most vulnerable to discrimination.

Work is underway to establish clearer processes for referrals that recognise the overlaps between safeguarding and hate crimes, but ensure the appropriate and timely response.

The Board will work in conjunction with the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board to promote the National Safe place scheme. This is an initiative where local business will display a sign that they are a safe haven for anyone who feels threatened or unable to cope and can give them respite until further help can be arranged.

Domestic Violence

Work has been undertaken this year to consolidate the links between safeguarding and domestic violence. The Chair of the Quality and Performance sub group attends the Community Safety Partnership meetings to disseminate issues between the two Boards. The Safe at Home team who support victims of domestic violence are line managed by the Family Services

Service Manager for Safeguarding to ensure agendas are tied together in terms of Think Family.

Further links have been made to the MARAC service (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference for High Risk Domestic Violence Situations) and training on MARAC has continued to be incorporated into the multi agency safeguarding training strategy.

Contract Monitoring

Robust contract monitoring is a key element for safeguarding adults. In Wakefield care and support commissioning officers undertake regular contract monitoring visits to independent Care Home providers. During visits care plans and daily records are checked for safeguarding issues. Officers from contracts and operations work together to identify and manage areas where there are safeguarding issues.

This has now been expanded into a multi agency group where other agencies who also visit Care Homes can raise minor issues which may build a picture of greater concern and lead to further action.

This meeting has now been established as the Reportable Concerns Group. It is chaired by a member of the Wakefield Safeguarding Adults Board and forms part of the Wakefield Safeguarding Adults Board governance process.

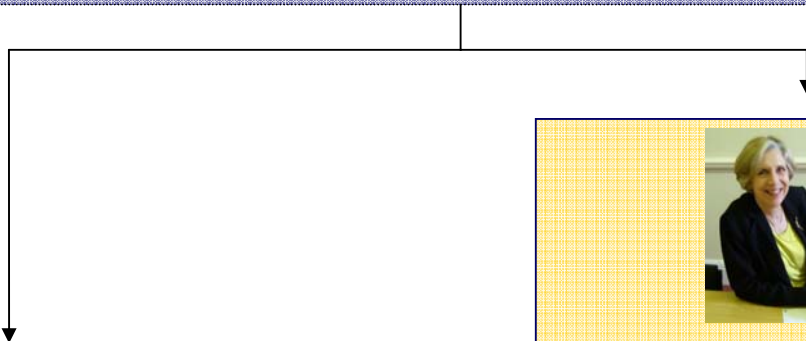
The Operating Structure of the Safeguarding Adults Board

Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adults Board



Chair: Elaine McHale, Corporate Director of Family Service (WMDC)

Elaine McHale has been the Chair of the Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adults Board since its formation in 2006. Elaine has corporate responsibility for both adults and children.



Training Sub Group

Chair: Heather David, Registered Manager (Mid Yorkshire Care)

Heather David has been the Independent Sector representative on the WDSAB since 2007. She has been Chair of the WDSAB Training Sub Group since May 2010.



Quality & Performance Sub Group
Chair: Lyn Burns, Interim Service Director for Safeguarding & Family Support (WMDC)

Lyn Burns has been the Chair of the Quality and Performance Sub Group since May 2010. Lyn leads the Directorate for Safeguarding and Family Support which works across both adults and children.

Reportable Concerns Group
Chair: Jane Wilson, Clinical Assurance Lead (NHS Wakefield District)

Jane Wilson is the Clinical Assurance lead at NHS Wakefield District PCT. Jane is a member of the WDSAB and a member of the Quality and Performance Sub Group and currently chairs the Reportable Concerns Group.

4. Vision, Statement of Intent and Key Strategic Objectives

The Vision

The Vision of the Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adults Board is that:

Adults who may be eligible for community care services will be safe and will feel safe within their homes, within their communities and in other settings.

Statement of Intent

The Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adults Board will provide strong and effective leadership in order to co-ordinate and ensure effectiveness of the work done by agencies for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of adults who may be eligible for community care services. We aim to ensure that adults in Wakefield:

- Are safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence, financial and material exploitation and sexual abuse in whatever setting they are living
- Are safe from accidental injury and death
- Are safe from discrimination and bullying
- Are safe from crime and anti-social behaviour
- Live in environments where they have security, stability and care.

From the outset Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adults Board has been clear that safeguarding and promoting the welfare of adults is 'Everyone's Business'. We will achieve our vision through:

- Working collaboratively between agencies to improve safeguarding practice.
- Monitoring and where necessary challenging the performance of agencies in relation to safeguarding.
- Developing and implementing effective policies, guidance and procedures.
- Carrying out audits of practice and effective Serious Case Reviews.
- Learning lessons from other areas' experience.
- Providing high quality multi-agency training and development to the workforce.
- Promoting awareness of safeguarding within agencies and in the wider community.

- Engaging with service users and ensuring that their experience is at the heart of our work.

Key Strategic Objectives

The following are our key objectives for the next eighteen months and are designed to enable us to achieve our vision. The Wakefield and District Safeguarding Adults Board will

1. Review and strengthen multi-agency commitment and action to improve adult safeguarding
2. Ensure that good adult safeguarding and adult protection training and development arrangements are in place for all managers and staff
3. Review and improve arrangements for safeguarding adults in general and for the protection of adults from abuse and neglect in particular
4. Promote public awareness and equal access to safeguarding
5. Ensure that service users are involved as key partners in all aspects of the work
6. Work towards ensuring the Board structures and processes are ready for any legislation which makes Boards statutory in 2012.

Our Business Plan for 2011-2013 complements this Review Report and details how these objectives will be met.

5. Training and Developing a Skilled Workforce

The Wakefield multi agency training strategy 2011 / 12 sets out our approach to learning and development activities that are designed to support the implementation of the Wakefield multi agency safeguarding adults procedures and requirements of relevant guidance particularly 'No Secrets', safeguarding adults (ADASS 2005) Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

The training strategy focuses on the delivery of high quality learning and development activities to all levels of staff to enable them to respond to safeguarding concerns with prompt, timely and appropriate action. The strategy sets out the range of activities to develop the appropriate level of skill and competence for all staff and volunteers involved in safeguarding adults. The key drivers are ensuring that a vulnerable adult's life is free from abuse and neglect which enables the individual to retain independence, well being, dignity and choice.

The Training Sub Group is chaired by Heather David of Mid Yorkshire Care, Independent Domiciliary Sector who is also a Board Member. This ensures that key messages identified by the Sub Group are communicated to the Board and vice-versa. The Sub Group also includes representatives of many of the organisations that are aligned with, and which make up, the Safeguarding Adults Board. The main role of the Sub Group is to oversee the

production of the multi-agency Training Strategy, to monitor its implementation and to review on an annual basis.

Overview of 2010-2011

The Training Sub Group has held bi-monthly meetings as planned, and have been quorate under the existing terms of reference (four representatives of different agencies). The Safeguarding Adults Review in July and August of this year has helped the Sub Group to refocus resulting in a new Training Strategy and revised Terms of Reference. We look forward to implementing the changes set out in the Strategy and in the Business Plan for 2011-13.

Strengths and Achievements

Several new agencies have become members of the Sub Group during this period, including representatives of the Fire and Rescue Service and Wakefield & District Housing. Multi agency Awareness Training has been approved. A Personalisation Distance Learning Pack was presented to the Board on 21 October.

Issues and Priorities for Development

The Training Sub Group now has a revised Training Strategy ready for implementation. Work will be undertaken to realise the potential benefits from a multi agency approach to provision and participation in training and development. The group also needs to complete the work required on the Personalisation Distance Learning Pack in order to follow up with implementation.

6. Safeguarding Adults - Quality and Performance

The Quality and Performance Sub Group is chaired by Lyn Burns (WMDC Family Services – Interim Service Director for the Safeguarding and Family Support Directorate). The Chair is a Board Member. This ensures that key messages identified by the Sub Group are communicated to the Board and vice-versa. The purpose of the Quality and Performance Sub Group is to develop and implement a performance and quality framework which will enable the Board to evaluate the effectiveness of the inter-agency safeguarding processes for safeguarding adults within the Wakefield district. The Sub Group includes representatives of most of the organisations that are aligned with, and which make up, the Safeguarding Adults Board.

Overview of 2010-2011

This year has seen significant progress in some areas, notably the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and the quality of oversight and monitoring of this process. The Safeguarding Adults Review in July and August of this year identified a need for a consistent format of

performance data collection. A format has been designed which is now being consulted upon.

Strengths and Achievements

The sub group has revised its Terms of Reference to provide a sound framework for future work. The group initiated a review to quality assure local arrangements for residential care in response to the national and regional concerns around the collapse of Southern Cross and the television programme which highlighted concerns at Winterbourne View.

The group received a good report on user experience of safeguarding procedures as affecting them which sets an example of how we need to involve users in audit in future. We will achieve this by scoping all user engagement activity and adding a Safeguarding feedback element to this engagement for dissemination via training or news letter. The group organised the successful Annual Conference in March 2011.

Issues and Priorities for Development

The sub groups overall priority is to develop a consistent format for performance monitoring. The group will continue to ensure that information and learning relevant to adult safeguarding that has been produced is shared between partners – examples being WMDC contracts section interviews with 1,000 service users of home care, a review of the operation of MCA/DOLS, and agency audit reports relating to safeguarding. We need to develop a tool or tools for auditing on a multi agency basis to focus on areas of interest, concern and potential learning, including user experience of safeguarding and the outcomes for them of adult protection activity.

We will support the continued development of the Reportable Concerns Sub Group.

7. Reportable Concerns

The Reportable Concerns Sub Group is now chaired by Jane Wilson, Clinical Assurance Lead, NHS Wakefield District. The Reportable Concerns Sub Group reports to the Quality and Performance Sub Group. The Chair of Reportable concerns is a Safeguarding Adults Board Member and also a member of the Quality and Performance Sub Group.

This connection will ensure that key messages identified by the Sub Group are communicated to the Quality and Performance Sub and vice-versa. The purpose of the Sub Group is to take a systematic multi-agency approach to sharing of intelligence and ensuring concerted intervention at an early stage where there are concerns about standards of care, particularly in relation to collective care settings.

Overview of 2010-2011

The terms of reference for the Sub Group were approved by the Board in January 2011. When the group began it was a groundbreaking development now followed elsewhere. It has created a standing multi-disciplinary team approach where there might otherwise have been only occasional contact over a serious concern. A representative of CQC attends the meetings.

Strengths and Achievements

The group is able to offer concerted advice and support when a home changes manager, known to be a potential time when standards can slip. It is an example of excellent multi agency collaboration with involvement of specialist clinical staff in identification of issues and follow-up action.

Issues and Priorities for Development

There is a need to review and clarify the procedures and thresholds by which issues are escalated from 'reportable' (that is, low level) concerns to 'serious' concerns when more formal intervention is adopted. This work is underway and forms part of the wider review of thresholds and procedures as part of the West Yorkshire joint procedures work.

The sub group provides a summary report from the Chair to each meeting of the Quality and Performance Sub Group.

Reports from Agencies

8. Family Services – Wakefield Council

Family Services encompasses a wide range of activities all of which have Safeguarding as a key component of the service they provide.

There are three Directorates in Adult Family Services.

Lyn Burns is the interim Service Director with responsibility for Safeguarding and Family Support. This encompasses both Adults and Children's safeguarding and she is supported on this by a Safeguarding Service Manager and Adult Safeguarding Board Business Manager.

Rob Hurren is the Service Director for Operations. This includes operational social work teams working with older people and hospitals. This Directorate also includes Social Care Direct who act as the Gateway for all Safeguarding referrals and provide a 24 hour contact and social work facility.

Sam Pratheepan is the Director for Adult social services. This includes Care and Support Commissioning who deal with contracts with Care Homes and

community care service providers, Learning Disabilities and Personalisation, which includes MCA and Dol's.

A review of Council safeguarding activity and the processes of the Adult Safeguarding Board was undertaken in July and August 2011. A series of recommendations were made one of which included establishing a Safeguarding Adults Action Group. This is to ensure strong links between family support and the two other Adult Services Directorates, both operationally and with the Safeguarding Adults Board and sub group agendas. This action group has been established, with agreed terms of reference and a work plan which is already underway.

The review also included work on an Adult Family Services Business Plan and new terms of reference for the Safeguarding Board sub groups. The reviews' recommendations are being acted upon and will form a basis of work for both Adult Family Services and the Adult Safeguarding board for the next 12 months.

Michael Wharton
Safeguarding Adults Business Manager
Wakefield Council

9. Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust

This year has seen the benefit of an integrated safeguarding team which supports a different way of working but also realizes the benefits of experts within both safeguarding adults and safeguarding children working together on joint agendas. An example of such work is domestic violence.

The safeguarding team have worked with commissioners on an early recognition of domestic abuse project which led to developments and awareness raising within all three Emergency Departments. Staff now have access to a range of resources to assist them in early recognition of domestic abuse and provision of information to patients who may be subject to domestic abuse.

There have been 5 deprivations of liberty authorisations over the year. This is a rise from 4 in 2009/2010 and is most likely attributed to greater awareness of the safeguarding, better understanding of the MCA and the introduction of the Named Professional in Safeguarding adults who promotes and gives advice around this area.

16 learning disability champions have been trained. These are a range of health professionals and support workers who have self nominated their commitment to improve the care that the Trust provides to this vulnerable group of patients. Further ad hoc learning disability awareness sessions have been delivered to radiography, dietetics physiotherapists, outpatients and nutritional nurse specialist forums.

A learning disability acute liaison nurse role (12 months secondment) was introduced into the Trust in August 2010. This post was funded by the learning disability development fund held by the local authority. This role has made a significant impact for both patients and staff in the management, pathway development and care of patients with learning disabilities. An evaluation of the role is currently underway to source recurrent funding to ensure this work continues.

The move into the new hospital in February 2011 has produced an environment for children, young people and vulnerable adults offering them an environment suitable for their needs and affording them the levels of dignity that we all should expect.

10. South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

The Trust works in partnership with service users, families and other organisations in order to maximise people's choice, control and inclusion and to protect their human rights as important ways of meeting their individual needs and reducing the potential for abuse

To ensure that service users are protected against the risk of abuse the Trust provides Safeguarding Adults Abuse awareness training for all staff. This is based on the Multi Agency Policy and Procedure and the Trust Safeguarding Adults Protocol. The training enables staff to understand that they are responsible for protecting service users from abuse; the vulnerability of service users to abuse and the need to understand and respect individual human rights.

The staff within Mental Health and Learning Disability services across the Trust are active in carrying out their roles within the Multi Agency Safeguarding Adults policy framework. This includes a variety of roles including alerting, enquiring or investigating if abuse has taken place; chairing safeguarding meetings and the development of safeguarding plans that enable service users to have control over their lives and be safe from abuse.

Training has been delivered at a workshop attended by sixty police constables. The training was delivered by the Trust following a request from the Wakefield Police Safeguarding Unit. It was agreed that officers needed to understand issues in relation to safeguarding, vulnerability, mental capacity, access to mental health services, and the MARAC referral process.

Sue Hanks
Specialist Adviser for Vulnerable Adults
South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

11. West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) are now a member of Wakefield's Safeguarding Adults Board, recognising that safeguarding vulnerable adults and children is everybody's business, and remains committed to playing an active role in safeguarding work. The District Commander attends the Board meetings and is instrumental in raising any safeguarding issues affecting the Wakefield District. The Wakefield Assistant District Manager attends the Safeguarding Adults Training Sub Committee.

WYFRS fully implemented its new 'Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy and Procedures' in late 2010. The procedure sets out a specific reporting structure and allows staff to follow the same procedure for the referral of adults or young children if they have any concerns of a safeguarding nature.

In Wakefield district, operational crews and Prevention staff are responsible for carrying out over 8,000 home fire safety check visits each year on top of operational duties/incidents and are best placed to identify any safeguarding concerns within the home environment.

To support the staff in raising concerns, WYFRS is in the process of developing a safeguarding e-learning training package to cover 'recognising and responding to abuse', and once this is rolled out in early 2012, it will be a mandatory course for all WYFRS staff to complete

WYFRS also continues to actively work with the Wakefield MARAC and MAPPA processes to ensure that all fire safety issues are raised and interventions put in place for those most at risk, recognising the importance of a multi-agency approach to reducing injury amongst vulnerable adults.

The policy and procedures are reviewed on an annual basis or as required due to changes in legislation.

David Teggart
Assistant District Manager (Wakefield)
West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

12. West Yorkshire Police

The number of adult safeguarding referrals reported by West Yorkshire Police continues to increase. This increase is mainly due to improved awareness training of frontline officers and better recording of incidents.

A workshop was held in November 2011 involving the representatives from all the Police Safeguarding Units across West Yorkshire and the Safeguarding Managers from the 5 Local Authorities. Information about current structures was shared and gaps for improvement were identified. A new Force policy on adult safeguarding based on National good practice has just been signed off

in October 2011 by a Chief Officer and has now been incorporated as Force policy.

The Police hosted a multi-agency conference on Adult Safeguarding in October 2011 with speakers from across the country talking through complex cases and current issues. Attendees gained a greater understanding of the priorities and issues faced by professionals from different agencies when dealing with an adult Safeguarding investigation.

Pat Casserly
Superintendent
West Yorkshire Police

13. Wakefield and District Housing

WDH realise the important role that Housing has in contributing towards safeguarding vulnerable adults from abuse. They have an internal Safeguarding Group that consists of representatives from across all services in the organisation. The group monitor and review internal safeguarding policies and procedures and implements a training strategy for employees.

Training is provided to staff enabling them to recognise signs of abuse. Regular promotional briefings and displays are done to ensure Safeguarding is a priority for staff who are working with vulnerable adults.

WDH is part of the Interagency Information Sharing Protocol for Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield which is in place to govern the effective and efficient sharing of information. Such information sharing is necessary to ensure that individuals and the population, as a whole, can and do receive the care, protection, and support they require.

Sarah Roxby
Vulnerable Services Manager
Wakefield and District Housing

14. Yorkshire Ambulance Service

National Ambulance Safeguarding Group

YAS is leading the way in developing best practice for safeguarding in ambulance services and they chair the National Ambulance Safeguarding Group. This group allows safeguarding managers to work together on common issues, share knowledge and experience and compare information between Ambulance Trusts.

Developments

- ❖ Review and update of the YAS NHS Trust Safeguarding Policy, Procedure & Guidance
- ❖ Implementation of the YAS NHS Trust Policy for the Management of Domestic Abuse & Guidance for the Management of Domestic Abuse

Janine Waters
Named Professional for Safeguarding Adults
Yorkshire Ambulance Service

15. NHS Wakefield District

NHS Wakefield District PCT functions were divided into commissioning and provider under Transforming Community Services (TCS), the provider being known as Wakefield District Community Health Services (WDCHS). WDCHS were subsequently transferred into other local providers from April 2011 namely Mid Yorkshire Hospital Trust (MYHT), South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) and the Local Authority.

WDCHS combined the safeguarding adults and children's forum to become the Safeguarding Forum and the terms of reference were agreed. This enables lead clinicians and support services to consistently approach the shared themes within safeguarding and enable adult leads to learn from the experience of their colleagues in children's safeguarding

A Quality assurance policy was agreed by NHSWD and assessment tools based on the Care Quality Commission (CQC) essential standards for quality and safety were designed to enable a full or targeted review to be systematically undertaken in services either as a planned or targeted review. A number of assurance visits were undertaken jointly with the Local Authority as a result of safeguarding alerts indicating possible collective care settings concerns. Joint action plans were developed if required and performance managed.

NHSWD fulfilled its statutory function with regards to authorising DOL's. Best interest assessors (BIA) under a section 75 agreement with the Local Authority to undertake assessments.

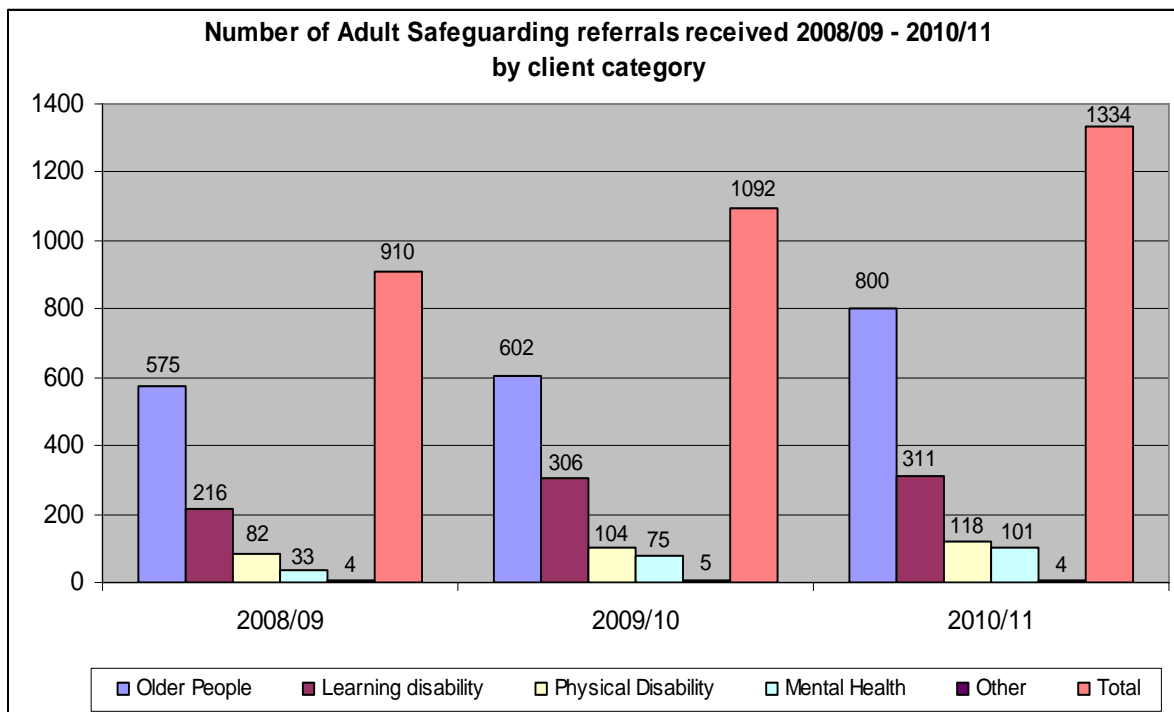
NHSWD have been working with the Local Authority and the Safer and Stronger Communities Board, and have secured funding to commission Stop Hate UK to raise awareness of hate crime. This affects many vulnerable groups and has a huge impact on the health and well being of specific minority groups. The initiative will aim to raise awareness and increase reporting of race hate crime as well as homophobic and disability hate crime.

Jane Wilson
Clinical Assurance Lead NHS Wakefield

Appendix A – Referral Activity

Adult safeguarding referrals received 2008/09 – 2010/11 by client category

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Older People	575	602	800
Learning disability	216	306	311
Physical Disability	82	104	118
Mental Health	33	75	101
Other	4	5	4
Total	910	1092	1334



In 2005 – 2006 there were 107 Safeguarding alerts/referrals. The work of the Wakefield Safeguarding Adults Board has raised awareness over the years and there has been a year on year increase in alerts.

This is not to say that there has been an increase in abuse, simply that people's awareness has been raised and they know how to report things. The majority of alerts do not proceed to multi agency Safeguarding investigations as they are often issues which are already known about and being dealt with, matters which can be dealt with via the care plan, signposted for a single agency to deal with, initial information gathering confirms that there is no Safeguarding concern or numerous other methods of dealing with the alert.

People who raise alerts are always re-contacted and informed what has been done in relation to the issue they were concerned about.

It is the Wakefield Safeguarding Adults Boards intention to continue raising awareness and to make Safeguarding everyone's business. Nationally alerts continue to rise and Wakefield is following the national trend as local and national publicised events raise the profile of Adult Protection and Safeguarding.

Appendix B – Key Policy and Guidance

1. No Secrets, Department of Health (DH), 2000
2. Safeguarding Adults, a National Framework of Standards for good practice and outcomes in adult protection work, ADSS, 2005
3. Safeguarding Adults 2011, ADASS Advice Note, April 2011
4. Adult Social Care, Law Commission, May 2011
5. Statement of Government policy on adult safeguarding, (DH), 16 May 2011
6. Safeguarding Adults: The Role of NHS Commissioners, DH, March 2011
7. Safeguarding Adults: The Role of Health Service Practitioners, DH, March 2011
8. Safeguarding Adults: The Role of Health Service Managers & their Boards, DH, March 2011
9. Prioritising need in the context of *Putting People First*, DH, 2010
10. Making Safeguarding Personal, Kate Ogilvie and Cathie Williams, LGA, December 2010
11. Safeguarding Adults, ACPO, 2011